

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) A method of filling a mold with an organic material in the liquid state to mold an optical component, the method including the following steps:

- rise in flowrate (A), from a zero flowrate to a nominal flowrate (Dn) greater than 40 g/min,

- full flowrate filling (B), with the nominal flowrate (Dn) maintained, and

- flowrate reduction (C), to return from the nominal flowrate (Dn) to the zero flowrate, which method is characterized in that the rise in flowrate (A) step is divided into at least two phases:

- low flowrate start of filling (A1; A1'), until the mold is filled with the material to a height of at least 2 mm at the deepest point of the mold, the flowrate increasing during this phase to a maximum start of filling flowrate (Dd) of less than 20 g/min, and then

- main rise in flowrate (A2), from the start of filling flowrate (Dd) to the nominal flowrate (Dn).

2. (currently amended) A method according to [[the preceding]] claim 1, wherein the height of the material marking

the end of the start of filling phase (A1; A1') is less than 12 mm.

3. (currently amended) A method according to [[either preceding]] claim 1, wherein the height of the material marking the end of the start of filling phase (A1; A1') is from 5 to 10 mm and preferably approximately 7 mm.

4. (currently amended) A method according to [[any preceding]] claim 1, wherein the start of filling flowrate (Dd) is from 3 to 8 g/min.

5. (currently amended) A method according to [[any preceding]] claim 1, wherein the nominal flowrate (Dn) is from 50 to 300 g/min.

6. (currently amended) A method according to [[any preceding]] claim 1, wherein the start of filling phase (A1) is divided into two phases:

- preliminary rise in flowrate (A11), from the zero flowrate to the start of filling flowrate (Dd), and
- low flowrate start of filling plateau (A12), with the start of filling flowrate (Dd) maintained.

7. (currently amended) A method according to [[the preceding]] claim 6, wherein the low flowrate start of filling plateau (A12) is maintained for 4 to 10 seconds.

8. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the flowrate during the start of filling phase (A1') is a strictly increasing function of time.

9. (currently amended) A method according to [[any preceding]] claim 1, wherein the rate of rise in flowrate during the main rise in flowrate phase (A2) is from 2 000 to 7 000 g.min⁻².

10. (currently amended) A method according to [[any preceding]] claim 1, wherein the flowrate reduction step (C; C') is divided into at least two phases:

- main flowrate reduction (C1), from the nominal flowrate (Dn) to an end of filling flowrate (Df) of less than 20 g/min, and

- low flowrate end of filling (C2) at decreasing flowrate, from the end of filling flowrate (Df) to the zero flowrate.

11. (currently amended) A method according to [[the preceding]] claim 10, wherein the end of filling flowrate (Df) is from 3 to 8 g/min.

12. (currently amended) A method according to [[any preceding]] claim 1, wherein the end of filling phase (C22, C23) is divided into two phases:

- low flowrate end of filling plateau (C22), with the end of filling flowrate (Df) maintained, and

- final flowrate reduction (C23), from the end of filling flowrate (Df) to the zero flowrate.

13. (currently amended) A method according to [[the preceding]] claim 12, wherein the end of filling plateau phase (C22) is maintained for 2 to 8 seconds.

14. (currently amended) A method of molding an organic material optical component, including a step of filling an appropriate molding cavity (6) with organic material in the liquid state and a step of polymerizing the material in said molding cavity, which method is characterized in that the molding cavity (6) is filled by a method according to [[any preceding]] claim 1.

15. (currently amended) A method according to [[the preceding]] claim 14, wherein the material is introduced into the molding cavity (6) through an orifice (9) in the lower portion of said cavity.

16. (currently amended) A method according to either claim 14 [[or claim 15]], wherein polymerization of the material is initiated immediately after complete filling of the molding cavity.

17. (new) A method according to either claim 15, wherein polymerization of the material is initiated immediately after complete filling of the molding cavity.